

REMARKS

Claims 1-30, 57, and 62 are now pending in the application. Claims 31-34, 36-56, and 58-61 have been cancelled herewith. The amendments to the claims contained herein are of equivalent scope as originally filed and, thus, are not a narrowing amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 31-34, 36-56, and 58-61 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nicholson (U.S. Pat. No. 6131915). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have cancelled claims 31-34, 36-56, 58-61 herewith. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner states that claim 57 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants have amended claim 57 to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, claim 57 should now be in condition for allowance.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 1-30 and 62.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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